

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-275

A RESOLUTION RE-AUTHORIZING “DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES” FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTRIC UTILITY BUSINESS WITHIN NJDEP AND EPA EMISSION TRADING PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) have, over many years, developed and maintained various regulations which establish nitrogen oxide (NO_x), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission cap and trading systems (e.g. NO_x Budget, Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), Acid Rain Program (ARP), Cross-State-Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR)) as part of pollution control efforts within the United States, and will continue to administer some of these programs into the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vineland, Municipal Electric Utility has been, and continues to be, required to participate in some of these programs by monitoring emissions of NO_x, SO₂, and CO₂ from its generating units, reporting these emissions within a tracking system administered by the EPA, and acquiring and surrendering emission allowances equivalent to these emissions each year; and

WHEREAS, to conduct these activities, which include the regular and periodic filing of notices, plans and reports with the EPA and DEP, one or two persons must be certified as authorized “Designated Representatives” within the EPA tracking system to serve as a primary points of contact for all communications between the Electric Utility and both EPA and DEP with regard to these trading programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Vineland as follows:

1. THAT Lisa A. Fleming, Sr. Environmental Specialist with the Electric Utility, continues to be named as Designated Representative, and Diane Amico, Environmental Specialist with the Electric Utility, is hereby named as Alternate Designated Representative, and may be officially registered as such with the EPA and NJDEP, for the purposes of the aforementioned emission trading programs, and
2. THAT each of these individuals is authorized to transact routine Electric Utility business with regard to these trading programs, including the submission of monitoring plans and reports, and the transfer and/or distribution of emission allowances to or from the accounts within the EPA electronic tracking system that are assigned to the Electric Utility; provided, however,
3. THAT the sale, purchase, or trading of any emission allowances related to these programs shall be made only upon separate, prior approval by this Council.

Adopted:

President of Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk

MEMORANDUM



DATE: June 22, 2015
TO: Ruben Bermudez, Mayor
FROM: Joseph A. Isabella, Director, Municipal Utilities
RE: Designation of Authorized Account Representatives – EPA Emission Trading Programs

Since 1999, the Electric Utility has been required to participate in multiple EPA emission trading programs designed to reduce overall emissions of nitrogen and sulfur oxides (NO_x and SO₂) within the United States, as well as in specifically designated regions. Each year, a pool of allowances is allocated to all large NO_x and SO₂ emitters (mostly utility generating units), and at the end of the year, each source must surrender enough allowances to cover its actual emissions. Allowances may be traded among companies to suit their needs. All three VMEU stations are subject to these programs. Information on carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions is also collected, and may also be used for compliance.

Part of these trading programs involves an electronic tracking system administered by EPA. Each facility is assigned one or more accounts within this system to track its emissions and allowance holdings. The system contains information on emission monitoring equipment used at each facility and regularly accepts data reports from this equipment.

The utility is required to interact with this tracking system (CAMD) by submitting quarterly electronic emission reports and sending notices and requests regarding operations, including allowance transfers within facility accounts. (Allowances need to be moved from one account to another for compliance purposes - the right number of allowances must be in each unit account to cover actual unit emissions at the end of the year - and to reflect purchase and sale transactions.

To interact with the EPA tracking system, a facility must name one or two individuals to be official contacts known as 'Designated Representatives' (DRs). One DR must certify each submittal made under the trading program, and all correspondence from EPA and/or DEP related to the program is sent to each registered DR. The DRs are responsible for the accuracy of all information sent to EPA and DEP, and must monitor the accounts to ensure that compliance requirements are met.

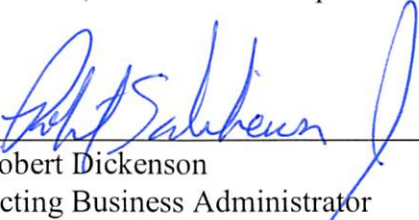
A facility owner can designate any responsible person as a DR. Because transactions in this program may be frequent, and the duties of the DR include conducting routine business requiring familiarity with all details of the program and operation of the emission monitoring systems associated with each of the utility's turbines, previous City Council resolutions have designated Utility personnel directly involved with the monitoring systems to handle these. (This authorization has applied only to the execution of necessary and routine business. The actual sale or purchase of allowances is subject to prior Council approval and the purchasing regulations.) Lisa Fleming has been the primary DR since the inception of the original trading program in

1999. Harry Maloney had been authorized as the backup DR, but since he has now retired, another person needs to be designated if the City is to have adequate backup. I am recommending Diane Amico for this role. Diane has been working at the power plant with Lisa Fleming for the past five years, and is familiar with the trading programs.

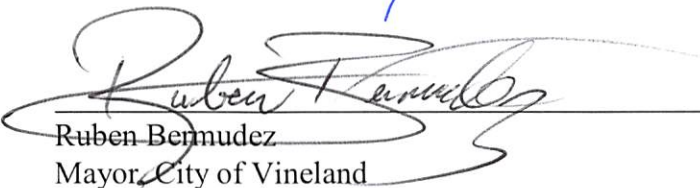
Attached is a proposed resolution which amends prior authorizations. I am requesting that this or a similar resolution be placed on the next Council agenda.

Approved: 

Joseph A. Isabella
Director, Vineland Municipal Utilities

Approved: 

Robert Dickenson
Acting Business Administrator

Approved: 

Ruben Bermudez
Mayor, City of Vineland